

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An apparatus for protecting an object from impact comprising:

an expandable cellular structure disposed between a first surface and a second surface,
said first surface being hingedly attached to said object;

said expandable cellular structure comprising a plurality of cells, each of said plurality of
cells having a plurality of cell walls and a plurality of joints;

said plurality of cell walls being constructed from a first material; and

said plurality of joints being constructed from a second material different from said first
material;

wherein said apparatus is configured to be deployed prior to an impact upon said object.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said object is one of the inside and the
outside of a motor vehicle.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said first material comprises one of metal,
laminated material, fiber reinforced material, and plastic.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said second material comprises one of
fiberglass and poly-paraphenylene terephthalamide (KEVLAR).

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said cell walls are tapered.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said expandable cellular structure is
linearly deployed.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said expandable cellular structure is radially deployed.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a flexible cover, wherein said flexible cover is configured to receive a projectile.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a flexible cover, wherein said apparatus serves as a floatation device.

Claims 10-28 (canceled).

Claim 29 (original): An apparatus for protecting an object from impact comprising:

an expandable cellular structure disposed between a first surface and a second surface, said first surface being attached to said object with an attachment;

said expandable cellular structure comprising a plurality of cell walls and a plurality of cell joints;

said plurality of cell walls comprising at least one of metal, plastic, poly-paraphenylene terephthalamide (KEVLAR), reinforced paper, resin impregnated paper, laminate, and fiber reinforced material; and

said plurality of cell joints comprising at least one of fiberglass and poly-paraphenylene terephthalamide (KEVLAR);

wherein said apparatus is configured to be deployed prior to an impact upon said object.

Claim 30 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said object is one of the inside and the outside of a motor vehicle.

Claim 31 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said cell walls are tapered.

Claim 32 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said expandable cellular structure is linearly deployed.

Claim 33 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said expandable cellular structure is radially deployed.

Claim 34 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising a flexible cover, wherein said flexible cover is configured to receive a projectile.

Claim 35 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 wherein said attachment comprises a hinge.

Claim 36 (original): The apparatus of claim 29 further comprising a flexible cover, wherein said apparatus serves as a floatation device.